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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. EZUMI, et al.
Serial No.: 10/791,857
Filed: MARCH 4, 2004
For: FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD AND GROUP OF SHAPE MEMBERS FOR FRICTION STIR WELDING
Group AU: 1725
Examiner: Michael Aboagye
Confirm. No: 3767

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop: AMEND – NO FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 11, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 11, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as listed in the following, and as set forth on the following pages:

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS;

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS;

REMARKS are included following the amendments; and

Replacement Sheets for Figs. 7-9 are included herewith as an

Appendix.